

AN EASY TASK TO  
FLY THROUGH AIRCatholic University Profes-  
sor Thinks Problem Solved.

DIVESTS BODY OF WEIGHT

Says Langley and Others Began at  
Wrong End of Solving Aerial  
Navigation Mystery.

Prof. E. L. Scharf, a lecturer on modern languages at the Catholic University, believes he has solved the problem which has defied Langley, and hundreds of other scientists. He asserts that he has made the conquest of the air by an entirely new method through which aerial navigation will become as simple as it is now difficult.

This method is to divest the body of all weight and Prof. Scharf claims to have made startling progress in the direction of achieving the results he hopes to accomplish ultimately.

Prof. Scharf believes he has found out how to negate the force of gravity. His assertions serve to bring back the theory propounded years ago in the story entitled, "A Tale of Negative Gravity," by Frank R. Stockton. In this case, however, it is asserted the theory has gone beyond the fanciful stage.

Plenty of Backing.

It is asserted by Prof. Scharf that he has shown his ideas and model to a number of New York capitalists. He says they have assured him of their willingness to back him to an unlimited extent.

Having carefully studied the efforts of others to fly, Prof. Scharf declares he has concluded all the experiments have started at the wrong end of the problem.

"Instead of working in the air," he said yesterday, "the man who flies will finally accomplish the result by starting in the earth itself. I have concluded that gravitation is only another form of that mysterious fluid, electricity. With this theory to start with and applying such principles as we know, such as the opposition of the positive and negative poles of the battery, I accomplished results that frightened me."

"While I do not care to say just how, I assuredly did lighten my body by use of the force I obtained. I at first weighed myself on a standard scale, standing on a sheet of glass, and without the application of the current, I tipped the beam at 125 pounds. Then I turned the force on myself, mounted the scale, and found I had lost between seven and eight pounds."

"In addition to a feeling of lightness in the head, I also felt the loss of weight through my body. I was so terribly exhausted I could scarcely walk."

Body Made Lighter.

"I am sure if I pursued the experiments at any length with the unperfected apparatus, I would kill myself before I accomplished the ultimate result—that is, of divesting my body of all weight. In the future I intend to experiment on animals."

Prof. Scharf found the professors of physics with whom he conversed in New York about the discovery were inclined to be skeptical. Still, he is not discouraged over that. He says that he has invariably been the way with great discoveries, at first derided, then accepted.

MAY APPOINT FORBES  
PHILIPPINE COMMISSIONERPresident Offers the Position to the  
Boston Financier.

W. Cameron Forbes, of Boston, has been offered a place on the Philippine Commission, to fill the vacancy left by the appointment of Mr. Taft as Secretary of War. Mr. Forbes has not yet accepted, but will decide soon.

Mr. Forbes is a Harvard man, and a grandson of Ralph Waldo Emerson. He has been prominent in football affairs at Harvard and had charge as head coach of the Harvard football team in 1898. He is wealthy, has traveled extensively, is an able financier, and was mentioned for a place on the Isthmian Canal Commission about a year ago.

Mr. Forbes will be in Washington this week. He will see the President and Secretary Taft, and will undoubtedly make his decision known at that time.

GEORGETOWN ORATORS  
AGAINST COLUMBIAN

As the result of a debate held at a meeting of the debating society of Georgetown Law School, the following were chosen to represent Georgetown in its annual debate against Columbian University: Alexander J. Rorke, of Massachusetts; Leonard Erickson, of Minnesota; Henry J. Quinn, of the District of Columbia; and P. V. Dowling, of Pennsylvania, as alternates. All members of the class of 1904. The judges were E. F. Thomas and E. Scott Douglass and Prof. D. W. Baker, of the faculty. In announcing the decision of the judges, Mr. Thomas stated that all the speakers had so ably acquitted themselves that a selection was made difficult.

The subject for debate is, "Resolved, That the payment by the Government of subsidies for the upbuilding and encouragement of the American merchant marine is expedient." Georgetown has the negative of the question, and all concerned are confident that the debaters will successfully maintain her enviable reputation.

TEXAS BANK RUINED  
BY DROP IN COTTON

Owing, it is said, to the drop in the price of cotton, the Citizens' National Bank of McGregor, Tex., has closed its doors. The Comptroller of the Currency has been advised and has appointed National Bank Examiner J. M. Logan as receiver.

The bank had resources of over \$124,000 and deposits of upward of \$62,000.

MT. PLEASANT CITIZENS'  
FEBRUARY MEETING

The Mount Pleasant Citizens' Association will hold its regular monthly meeting at the Hotel Stratford on Wednesday evening, February 10, at 8 o'clock. Important matters are scheduled for consideration at this meeting.

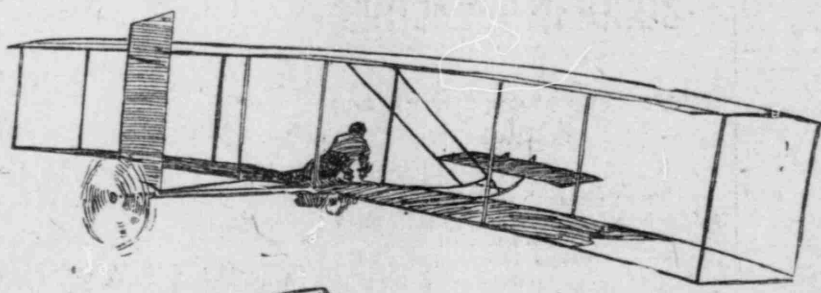
MR. McCALL BETTER.

Representative Samuel W. McCall, of Massachusetts, who has had a hard long siege with the grip, is able now to be about the Hotel Shoreham. He got out before he should about two weeks ago, caught more cold, and has suffered severely in consequence.

## WRIGHT'S AIRSHIP DURING ITS RECENT FLIGHT

## MEN WHO ARE TRYING.

Hiram Maxim spent \$100,000 on one airship idea.  
Prof. Langley, backed by the United States Treasury, new working on an airship.  
Mr. Levere is having a self-propelling ship built in Paris for the big Exposition prize.  
Prof. Alexander Graham Bell is endeavoring to apply box kite idea to airships.



Sketch made from photograph taken for The Washington Times while the Wright brothers were making at Kitty Hawk, N. C., the experiments which astonished the scientific world and demonstrated the practicability of aerial navigation.

## MEN WHO HAVE FLOWN.

M. Santos-Dumont during the last three years has made many successful attempts with the dirigible balloon.  
Count von Zeppelin made a flying machine over which German military authorities enthused.  
Leo Stevens sailed an aerial ship at Manhattan Beach October 10, 1902.  
T. C. Benbow made a successful trial with his airship at Utica, N. Y., last year.  
M. Juchmes and M. Lebaudy, in the spring of 1903, maneuvered their airship successfully.  
Dr. K. I. Danilewski has built many successful machines.

The Interesting Delegate  
From Little Porto RicoMr. Degetau Quickly Grasped the Opportunity  
to Show His Ability—Much  
Expected of Him.

FEDERICO DEGETAU.



Delegate to Congress From Porto Rico.

Less than an hour after the House made the Porto Rican resident commissioner, Federico Degetau, something more than a passive spectator of its proceedings, he had offered "A bill expressly to declare the citizens of Porto Rico citizens of the United States."

There is a certain fitness in the circumstance that Porto Rico's first representative to the United States was born in an American house. His father, who was of German descent, became interested in the movement for more ardent suburban houses and villas, and when on a visit to this country bought a house, which he took to pieces and shipped to Porto Rico, where the numbered pieces were fitted together.

The office of resident commissioner was a creation of the conditions growing out of the war with Spain, and it was an open question at first to what privileges its incumbent was entitled. Until last year he hardly had even a local habitation. He had no desk on the floor, and like any outsider had to summon members to the corridor in order to confer with them. He is not even yet entitled to the mileage and stationery allowance which even the delegate from Hawaii enjoys, though the Department of Agriculture does provide seeds for him to send to his constituents. It was decidedly a tribute to his personality that the House last year voted unanimously in favor of making him a full-fledged delegate, though the Senate in the closing days of the session struck all after the enacting clause from this bill, and sent it back to the House with some substituted provisions relating to wharves and the lands of the Catholic orders, but not a word about the delegate. This year the House Committee on Insular Affairs has already reported the same bill, and Senator Foraker, chairman of the Senate Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico, has said that if it reaches the Senate he will oppose it.

The ways of Congress are doubtless different in many respects from those of the Spanish cortes. "When you want to interest a Senator in a bill," counseled a friend, "don't explain it to him. Even if he hasn't made a study of it, he likes you to think he has. Tell him what you want and be as emphatic as you like, but don't expound."

When Mr. Degetau first came into the official atmosphere of Washington, he felt that there must be at least one lamentable lack in his mental make-up. Everybody he met, Senators, Representatives, departmental officers, even messengers and page boys, fairly breathed in numbers. Never had he heard statistics so glibly cited. Apparently the most usual of accomplishments in this country, it was one of the things which he could not do. In shame he confessed his failing to a friend at a social gathering. It was not that he did not comprehend figures, he protested. He believed that he understood their meaning as well as most men. But to carry them in his head, to cipher with them off-hand, was utterly and hopelessly beyond his powers. His confidant led him mysteriously into a corner, and looked about to see that no one was listening. The commissioner prepared himself for the shock of hearing the friendly warning that he might as well abandon at once all hopes of a successful public career in America, since no one with such arithmetical limitations could hope for preferment.

He was pleasantly reassured when the friend informed him that Col. Carroll D. Wright, known by fame to everyone who ever made reference to a figure, had exactly the same failing.

It is as a man of letters rather than as a politician that Mr. Degetau regards himself. It is his dream to see the island of his home a full member of the American sisterhood. It must have been a disappointment that his three years of effort in this country have not even secured the establishment of an autonomous territorial government. He feels that he can be more useful to his country here than elsewhere, but when the fight is over it is his hope to return for good and all to his "blue mountains."

P. L. A.

MEMORIAL SERVICE  
FOR DEAD EAGLESEulogistic Addresses at the  
Lafayette Theater.

"THE INFLUENCE OF WOMAN"

Well-Known Local Singers Participate  
in Musical Portion of the  
Program.

A memorial service in honor of departed members of Washington Aerie, Fraternal Order of Eagles, was held last night in the Lafayette Theater. A series of eulogistic addresses, appropriate music, and an impressive religious service, formed the evening's program.

Worthy President Daniel A. Driscoll opened the service, and after an invocation by the Rev. R. S. Lawrenson, the program was carried out. The principal addresses were made by the Hon. James M. Robinson, of Fort Wayne Aerie, No. 246, and the Hon. Charles H. Knapp, of Baltimore Aerie, No. 59.

A Glowing Tribute.

Mr. Robinson paid a glowing tribute to the departed members of the order, and in the course of his address, he said:

"Our mission is to enforce the divine injunction. As you would that others should do to you, do you even so to them. We seek to emulate the good deeds and examples of our worthy living, and we call back the spirits of our virtuous dead to guide us on to grander deeds and nobler lives."

In referring to the influence of woman on the lives and future of humanity, Mr. Robinson said:

"The sweet sentiment of humanity, good will to man, is the bright star of hope which through centuries of man's wanderings in the dark wilderness of ignorance and superstition guided him to higher ideals and to the amelioration of his human and political condition."

"Our Departed Brothers."

Mr. Knapp spoke on "Our Departed Brothers." The musical portion of the program was participated in by a group of well-known local singers, including Miss Mabel Latimer, Mrs. John Finnegan, Mrs. Mary Miller Scott, Mr. Finnegan, and Frank A. Rebeck.

Accompaniments were furnished by the Eagle Orchestra under the direction of Charles V. Schofield. After the benediction pronounced by Mr. Lawrenson the entire audience sang "Nearer, My God, to Thee," which concluded the service.

WILL INVITE PRESIDENT  
TO BE JAMESTOWN ORATOR

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, president of the Jamestown Exposition, and a committee of distinguished Virginians, will call on the President this afternoon to invite him to be the orator at the celebration of the anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown, May 13.

While here, the committee will confer with the members of the Virginia delegation congress to decide on the amount which the Jamestown Exposition Company will ask from Congress.



## CURES THROAT TROUBLE

Arthur Campbell, of 1020 First Street, Washington, Cured by Father John's Medicine — Cures Where Physicians Fail — Prev. nts Pneumonia and Consumption — 50 Years in Use

I am glad that I can praise Father John's Medicine. I had throat trouble and was advised to try Father John's Medicine, which I did, and found it to give great relief. You can use my name if you like, and I will be glad to recommend it to anyone. Mr. Swane, 142 N. Street southeast, Washington, D. C., says your medicine has cured him when physicians failed to do him any good. (Signed) Arthur Campbell, 1020 First Street, Washington, D. C. Remember that Father John's Medicine is not a patent medicine and that it is free from opium, morphine, alcohol, or any of the nerve-deadening drugs or weakening stimulants upon which 99 per cent of the patent medicines and so-called cough cures depend for their temporary effect, and which are dangerous—you are warned against them. It prevents pneumonia and consumption. 50 years in use.

E. H. NEUMEYER, Agent, 1408 1/2 St. N. W., Washington, D. C. Telephone Main 805.

Negress and Husband  
Hanged on Same TreeMississippians Avenge Murder of a Young  
Planter After Untiring Man-Hunt With  
Bloodhounds for Past Week.

VICKSBURG, Miss., Feb. 8.—The murder of James Eastland, the young planter who was killed by Luther Holbert and his wife a week ago, has been avenged. After an untiring man-hunt with bloodhounds for the last week, Holbert and wife were found yesterday morning near Brent and lynched.

The negro, who was armed to the teeth, was asleep. When he awoke he made a break to run and was shot and captured. Holbert's wife was captured at the same time, and later the two were taken from Ittaben by a large posse of men. Several of the number who returned last night told that the murderers were left hanging to a tree in the woods.

Eastland was a young planter, residing near Dodsboro, where he had inherited property from his father. The negro had been a servant for the family for many years. Holbert's son, who witnessed the crime, says that his father shot and killed another negro, and then turned upon Mr. Eastland and killed him.

The boy says that his mother also shot Mr. Eastland. Robbery, it is said, was the motive for the murder.

BOARDERS IN ST. LOUIS  
TO FIGHT FOR RIGHTS"Landladies' Trust" Not to Be Permitted Ascendancy  
Without Protest—Committee Appointed to Seek  
Concessions From the "Enemy."

St. LOUIS, Feb. 8.—The "landladies' trust" is not to be permitted to rise to monopolistic power without a protest on the part of those most affected—the boarders. A meeting of forty of these boarders was held here Thursday night, right in the heart of "the enemy's country," at 1033 Locust Street, one of the rooming houses owned and conducted by Mrs. Ida Clark, promoter of the "landladies' trust."

A committee was appointed to confer with the "landladies" and seek to persuade them to make concessions, at least to their regular boarders. It was not decided definitely what this request should be, but one plan is to ask for contracts with the regular boarders for the summer at the present prices. The committee meets tomorrow evening, and the boarders assemble next Saturday evening to hear the committee's report.

MICHIGAN SOCIAL CLUB'S  
THIRD ANNUAL BANQUET

The Michigan Social Club will give its third annual banquet at the Hotel Dewey, on Friday evening, February 12. The club is now in its fourth year, and its success has been pronounced from the time of its founding. Its officers are: President, W. W. Eldridge; vice president, Dr. Nancy B. Sherman; secretary, J. C. Weldon; treasurer, H. V. Blisbee, and treasurer, Burridge Wilson.

The committee in charge of arrangements for the banquet is composed of J. H. Tibbets, B. Wilson, and W. F. Sherman.

ACCOUNTING ASKED FOR  
IN EQUITY SUIT

The Northwest Eckington Improvement Company, Samuel C. Redman, and T. Cushing Daniel, today began proceedings in the District Supreme Court against Charles M. Campbell for an accounting, in connection with the improvement of part of lot 35, in Metropolitan View. The court is also asked to restrain the defendant from making a conveyance of an undivided one-third interest in the property mentioned. Ralston & Siddons are named as counsel for the complainants.

CONSULS WILL GO  
TO THE FAR EASTOur Representatives to De-  
part on Thursday.

POSITIONS DIFFICULT ONES

United States May Yet Be Drawn Into  
Threatened Conflict in  
Manchuria.

Straight to the seat of the threatened war in the East, Fleming T. Cheshire and James W. Davidson, the consuls recently appointed by this Government to serve at the newly opened ports of Mukden and Antung, in Manchuria, will depart on Thursday.

It will take the consuls five or six weeks to reach their posts, and by that time war may be raging up and down the peninsula, but it is not anticipated that the American consuls will be in any danger once they arrive safely. The only fear is that the ship or trains on which the consuls are traveling may be stopped by some unforeseen circumstance of the war.

By Different Routes.

It is probable that Mr. Cheshire and Mr. Davidson will go by different routes, so as to insure the safe arrival at their posts of at least one of them. One will sail from San Francisco, while it is likely that Mr. Davidson will try the overland route via the Canadian Pacific. Bitter weather in Manchuria is likely to cause the travelers many discomforts.

The advent of these new consuls in Manchuria is regarded of great significance in international diplomacy. Some diplomats claim that their presence near the seat of war will inevitably bring America into the conflict through some rash act on the part of the warring nations. Consuls Cheshire and Davidson have received lengthy instructions as to the diplomatic position they will occupy in Manchuria, and it will be their duty especially to keep the State Department most minutely informed as to the conditions in Manchuria. A treaty recently signed with China by the United States, Mukden and Antung must be maintained as "open ports."

Native of New York.

Fleming T. Cheshire, who goes to Mukden, is a native of New York. He was appointed acting interpreter at Fochow by George Seward, United States minister, in September, 1877. He served in that capacity until August 7, 1878, when he was appointed vice consul at the same post, and was in charge of the consulate from November, 1878, to May, 1879. Cheshire was in charge of the consulate at Canton from October 18, 1879, to April 20, 1880; appointed interpreter to the consulate general at Shanghai on June 19, 1882. He was appointed vice consul general at Shanghai in 1882. The most interesting part of his career was his service at Pekin during the siege of the legations by the Boxers, at which time he held the office of interpreter. He directed the erection of sandbag barricades on the city walls, leading the native Christians in this exciting work; also acting as interpreter in connection with the general work of defense.

Davidson a Westerner.

James W. Davidson, who is to go to Antung, is a native of Minnesota, but has had much experience in the East. He has been for many years United States consul at Yamsou, in the island of Formosa. He speaks Chinese and Japanese fluently and is well equipped for his duties.

Edwin V. Morgan, who is to go to Dainy as commercial agent, will leave Washington at a later date.

LECTURE ON LINCOLN  
AT METROPOLITAN CHURCH

A lecture on the life of Abraham Lincoln will be given tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock in the Metropolitan A. M. E. Church, by Prof. John L. Love, of the M Street High School.

Musical numbers, including solos by Miss Marguerite Butler, will form a part of the program.

"It's proof of high culture to say the greatest matters in the simplest way."—EMERSON.

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